

CITY OF DALTON
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2023

The regular meeting for the Public Safety Commission was held today in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Present were Chairman Terry Mathis, Commissioners Bill Weaver, Alex Brown, Anthony Walker, Truman Whitfield, Fire Chief Todd Pangle, Police Chief Cliff Cason, Assistant Police Chief Chris Crossen, City Administrator Andrew Parker, HR Director Greg Batts, Special Counsel Jonathan Bledsoe, Council member Annalee Sams, and Attorney Jason Connell from the City Attorney's Office.

AGENDA APPROVAL

On the motion of Commissioner Brown, second Commissioner Walker, the agenda was approved as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Police Department – Life Saving Award Presentation

Assistant Police Chief Chris Crossen presented the Life Saving Award to Lt. Michael Houck, Officer Steven Johnson, and Officer Keith Black for their outstanding work and leadership on December 12, 2022 where their efforts helped in the preservation of a life.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman

On the motion of Commissioner Walker, second Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Truman Whitfield was nominated to be the Chairman of the Public Safety Commission of the City of Dalton for 2023. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Secretary

On the motion of Commissioner Mathis, second Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Anthony Walker was nominated to be Secretary of the Public Safety Commission of the City of Dalton for 2023. The vote was unanimous in favor.

MINUTES

The Commissioners were presented written copies of the regular meeting minutes for January 24, 2023. On the motion of Commissioner Brown, second Commissioner Mathis, the minutes were approved as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Crime and Crash Statistics for January 2023

Police Chief Cliff Cason gave a written and oral summary of the Crime and Crash Statistical Reports for the month of January 2023. As noted in the written summary, Chief Cason reported the Year to Date Part I crimes are approximately 2.3% lower and Part II crimes are approximately 11.9% lower when compared to the past 5-year average. Chief Cason further reported there were 131 non-private property crashes reported for the month and non-injury crashes decreased over the previous month.

On the motion of Commissioner Brown, second Commissioner Walker, the report was approved. The complete report in its entirety is a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Financial Statistics for January 2023

Police Chief Cliff Cason presented the Financial Report for all divisions within the Dalton Police Department for the month of January 2023. Chief Cason reported the department has expended 9.6% of their budget, and are on track for the remainder of the FY 2023.

On the motion of Commissioner Weaver, second Commissioner Walker, the financial report was approved. The complete report in its entirety is a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Written Directive Review

Police Chief Cliff Cason presented the following written directive reviews for approval:

- 4.6 Search of Motor Vehicles
- 7.1 Crime Scenes
- 7.9 Overt Electronic Recording and Monitoring
- 7.13 Polygraph Examination Procedures

On the motion of Commissioner Brown, second Commissioner Mathis, the Commission adopted the Written Directives. The written directives are a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Police Department Property Transfer

On the motion of Commissioner Mathis, second Commissioner Brown, the Commission approved the following Police Department Property transfers:

- 2002 Enclosed Trailer transfer to the Dalton Parks and Recreation Department
- Two (2) 2015 Ford Interceptor Sedans transfer to the Northwest Georgia College and Career Academy Law Enforcement Program

The transfer documents are a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Monthly Statistical Report – January 2023

Fire Chief Todd Pangle presented the January 2023 Statistical Report to the Commission. Chief Pangle outlined details of the complete report, which included the Incident Report with 299 Total Responses, an Injuries and Property Report, NFPA Fire Experience Survey, Incident List by Incident Number, Training Division Monthly Report, Fire Safety Division Monthly Report and the Inspection Summary.

On the motion of Commissioner Brown, second Commissioner Walker, the Commissioners approved the Statistical Report for the Fire Department. A copy of the report outlining all incident values is a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Monthly Financial Report – January 2023

Fire Chief Todd Pangle presented the Financial Report for the month of January 2023 to the Commission. Chief Pangle stated the department has expended 6% their budget, and are on track for the remainder of the FY 2023.

On the motion of Commissioner Walker, second Commissioner Brown, the Commissioners approved the Financial Report for the Fire Department. A copy of the report is a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

New Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

On the motion of Commissioner Brown, second Commissioner Weaver, the Commission approved the following SOPs.

- SOP T-4 – Compensable Hours (Training)
- Training Class Approval Request

A copy of the new SOPs is a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

City Charter Updates – Q&A

Special Counsel Jonathan Bledsoe outlined the proposed City Charter with regards to the Public Safety Commission. City Administrator Andrew Parker and Council member Annalee Sams explained the proposed review changes will help streamline the procedures and responsibilities of City boards to be in line with Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) standards.

After a lengthy discussion, the Public Safety Commission expressed their ability to hire the Police and Fire Chief provides a buffer of safety for the citizens and keeps politics out of the process. Furthermore, the Commissioners have always solicited the assistance of the City's Human Resources Director. Council member Sams hopes to find a middle ground with regards to the proposed changes. No motion was made.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners, on the motion of Commissioner Brown, second Commissioner Walker, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 a.m.

Truman Whitfield, Chairman

ATTEST:

Anthony Walker, Secretary